



For immediate release

### **CHBA Northern BC celebrates first group of successful Master Residential Builders**

Prince George, British Columbia. April 19, 2016 – There will be five certified Master Residential Builders in Northern British Columbia after a ceremony this weekend in Prince George. The five builders – two from Fort St. John and three from Prince George – are all members of the Canadian Home Builders' Association of Northern BC (CHBA NBC).

“Our members have put in a considerable amount of work over the last year to earn these designations,” said Terri McConnachie, the executive officer for CHBA NBC. “It is no easy task to complete the course requirements while running a construction business full-time. Our new Master Residential Builders should definitely be proud of their accomplishments.”

The Master Residential Builder certification is delivered through the Canadian Home Builders' Association of BC's Continuing Education program. The suite of formal courses and certifications is designed for builders who have experience in the industry, but want to stay current on trends, technical advances, building codes and best practices. The five builders also completed the requirements for the Certified Housing Professional certificate, before completing the courses to become a Master Residential Builder.

“The education we provide is different than the training in schools or apprenticeships. It is designed for experienced builders to complement their initial training,” said Neil Moody, CEO of the Canadian Home Builders' Association of BC. “Our courses focus on business management skills and industry topics so our students can build their businesses and better serve homeowners.”

The first group of Master Residential Builders in Northern British Columbia are as follows:

- Harpreet S. Aulakh, Imax Enterprises (Fort St. John)
- Gordon Bliss, HG Bliss Projects Inc. (Prince George)
- David Eddy, Belledune Homes Ltd. (Prince George)
- Steven Haab, Haab Homes Construction Ltd. (Fort St. John)
- Jody Tindill, Belledune Homes Ltd. (Prince George)

“I felt that it was very important for our member builders to set the bar for builders in the communities we serve,” said Jody Tindill, the president of CHBA Northern British Columbia and a Master Residential Builder. “Continuous education in all forms is critical to the success of a business. We have already implemented many of the things we learned through this program and it is working, and we still have lots to do.”

The first group started the first of 11 courses together in January 2015, and finished their final requirements in March 2016. “We learned from each other by sharing our experiences and frustrations. I am very happy that this group of dedicated builders have their certificates, and now we will get the next group rolling this spring,” said Tindill.

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#### **About the Canadian Home Builders' Association of BC:**

The Canadian Home Builders' Association of BC is the voice of the residential construction industry in British Columbia representing more than 1,600 members through an affiliated network of nine local home building associations located throughout the province. The industry contributes over \$18.2 billion in investment value to British Columbia's economy creating 133,700 jobs in new home construction, renovation, and repair – one of the largest employers in British Columbia.